



# Lake Park Villager

*The official village newsletter of Lake Park, North Carolina*

**Volume 7, Issue 1**

**January 2010**

## **CLERK'S CORNER**

Upcoming Lake Park town meetings:

**February 9 – 7:00 PM** Village Council Meeting

**February 18 – 6:30 PM** Economic Development  
Commission at 3316 Faith Church Rd

**February 22 – 6:30 PM** Parks and Recreation  
Commission Meeting

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **LAKE PARK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION MEETING**

FEBRUARY 2, 7:00 PM, COMMUNITY CENTER

### **LAKE PARK SINGLES (AGES 45+)**

FEBRUARY 4, 7:00 PM, COMMUNITY CENTER

### **LAKE PARK S.A.G.E.S.**

FEBRUARY 12, 6:00 PM, FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### **LAKE PARK GARDEN CLUB**

FEBRUARY 15, 7:00 PM, COMMUNITY CENTER

### **LAKE PARK PLUS (INVESTMENT STUDY – MEMBER NAIC)**

FEBRUARY 17, 7:00 PM, 3603 RUTH STREET

## **Lake Park Swim Team**

At the January 12 Village Council meeting, the Parks & Recreation Commission presented a proposal to form a Lake Park Swim Team. Following the presentation by John Barnes and Janet Fowler, Council voted in favor of sponsoring the team and put in motion an exciting opportunity for our young persons to participate in competitive swimming.

Practice and competition will begin in early spring. The teams are open to young people ages 5 - 18. All members of the swim team must be 2010 members of the Lake Park pool.

As the Swim Team gets underway there will be ample opportunity for community involvement. More information will be distributed in the coming months. If you did not respond to the inquiry in last month's Villager, information may be obtained at this time from the town office. Further information can be found on the team's website, [www.lakeparkswimteam.com](http://www.lakeparkswimteam.com).

## **Tree Replacement on Faith Church**

*Moving to the "right plant, right place"*

In the tree and landscape industry there is a concept called "right plant, right place". Factors such as plant dimensions at maturity, soil quality, drainage, sun, shade and other variables play a large role in how a plant will perform in a given site and how problematic it could be for the owner. On Faith Church Road there is a "wrong plant, wrong place" issue starting to manifest and the Parks and Recreation Commission is very pleased that Union Power Cooperative has taken a leadership role in addressing the problem.

Some of the maples used as street trees were planted directly under an important power line that delivers electricity to many residents in Lake Park. The trees will simply get too big for the location and will need continual pruning that will be unattractive and expensive. A contractor responsible for line clearance for Union Power has proposed removal of about 30 maple trees and replacing them with a species better suited for the location. The maple trees will be replaced with beautiful smaller maturing trees that require little or no pruning over time. Details about the planting schedule and alternative species have not yet been determined. Parks and Rec will keep the residents posted as the project progresses.

## **Council Forms Task Force**

*Group to look at zoning within Lake Park*

In recent meetings, Council discussed the zoning regulations currently in effect for Lake Park and whether they should be modified to better suit the village. Currently, zoning within the Village is handled entirely by Union County. A specific section in the county's Land Use Ordinance deals specifically with how lots can be utilized within Lake Park's

## Lake Park Village Government

Website: [www.lakeparknc.gov](http://www.lakeparknc.gov)

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### Cheryl Bennett, Financial Officer

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### Deputy Richard Haywood and Deputy Joe Clough

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## For Your Information

### Christmas Tree Collection

Action Garbage Service will pick up all live trees placed at the curb by 7am on any Thursday. Artificial trees must be broken down and put in a clear bag or the collection cart.

### Bagged Items Outside of Carts

Clear bags ONLY. Action must be able to identify contents as household garbage or yard debris. Union County rejects yard debris co-mingled with household garbage.

### Economic Development News

Angela Williams, CPA and EDC member, presented highlights to help both individuals and business owners prepare tax returns correctly for 2009 at the January 11, 2010 free Tax Workshop.

"We must pay taxes, but we don't have to leave a tip!" This year introduced some new credits. Required Minimum Distribution of IRA or 401(k) plans is suspended again for 2010.

Charles E. Williams, President and CEO of HDI Investigation and Executive Protection Service, Inc., established in Town Center since 2006, has accepted an appointment by the Village Council to renew a 3-year term on the Economic Development Commission. Charles has been active on the EDC since December 2007 and took part in Lake Park's Business Fair & Family Fun Day as a partnering sponsor in October 2009.

boundaries. In addition, the use and development of the commercial areas within the Town Center had historically been governed by the owner. However, as that parcel is transferred to new ownership, Council questioned whether the Village should play a more active role in overseeing community development.

To help answer this question, the Council decided to form a task force to provide a recommendation back to the Council on how it should handle zoning in the future. This newly-formed task force will explore the current regulations for the village and assess whether these are appropriate in future years.

During the January meeting, the Council voted to appoint five individuals to serve on this task force: David Cleveland, Greg Crosby, Chris Mathisen, Mark Phillips, and John Ross.

## New Mayor Pro Tem

After the newly elected council members (Dave Cleveland and Sandy Coughlin) and mayor, Kendall Spence, were seated in December, the Council nominated and elected Greg Crosby as Mayor Pro Tem. The person holding this title serves in exactly the same capacity as other council members. However, if the Mayor is absent or unable to perform other mayoral responsibilities, this person will fill that role. Sandy Coughlin served in this role from 2007-2009.

## Stormwater Questions

### What is stormwater pollution?

Anything that gets in the path of a raindrop becomes stormwater pollution.

### How is stormwater pollution a problem?

Every time it rains, stormwater is carried directly to our surface waters. That means stormwater pollution can have detrimental effects to lakes within the village, surrounding creeks, rivers.

### What types of pollutants are in stormwater pollution?

Stormwater can carry sediment, trash, automotive fluids like used oil and antifreeze, grass clippings, leaves, yard debris, excess fertilizers, animal waste, pesticides and anything else in its path.

### What can citizens do to prevent stormwater pollution?

- Never dump yard waste down storm drains.
- Keep litter out of the lakes and surrounding areas.
- Remove leaves and debris from storm drains near your property regularly
- Clean up after pets.